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If our friends who favor us with manuscripis for must to all cases send stamps for that purpose.

# The Attack on the Court of Claims.

A bill to turn out of office the three present Judges of the Court of Claims and to replace them by three Democrats to be appointed by Governor DIX is now favorably reported by the Codes Com- boss of the Senate. mittee of the State Senate. Its authors and supporters have kept pretty quiet about it, and wisely; for we cannot believe that such a measure if thoroughly understood by the public would stand any chance of passage.

The Court of Claims is a tribunal. formerly known as the Board of Claims. which adjudicates upon the merits of claims against the State for property losses or personal injuries such as grow out of the prosecution of State enterprises and public works. If the claim is of a character which would make an individual defendant liable and the Court of Claims finds in favor of the claimant on the facts and assesses the amount of damage which he has suffered, the Legislature then usually provides for its payment out of the State treasury. The State does this voluntarily, for it cannot be sued in its own courts except by its own consent.

The tribunal is useful, whether it is denominated a court in the strict sense of the term or not. Either as a board or as a court it has been in existence for many years; and we do not understand that even now its critics desire to abolish it. What they want to do is to change the personnel. It is a perfectly plain case of the application of the spoils system in politics. The bill before the Legislature simply puts an end to the terms of the Judges now in office and empowers the Governor to appoint three new ones. That the baldness of the scheme may not be too manifest the salary is reduced from \$8,000 to clerk's compensation and the court is deprived of its own special marshal. All this is done in the alleged pursuit of economy, but the ruling motive of the promoters of the measure cannot thus be concealed. Their purpose is to land three desirable offices.

It has gone so far toward execution that THE SUN'S Albany correspondent has already furnished us with the name by the Governor, according to the understanding of those within the inner

No charge of any kind is made against Claims, so far as we have ever heard, law unless it be an accusation to say that they were somewhat active in politics before their elevation to the bench. So also was the Hon. CHARLES EVANS HUGHES, now an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States. There is nothing that argues against the judicial capacity of Judge ADOLPH J. RODENBECK of the Court of Claims in the fact that he was once a Republican Mayor of Rochester. Judge WILLIAM J. WALLACE, one of our most distinguished Federal Judges, began his public career as Mayor of Syracuse. Judge CHARLES H. MURRAY of the Court of Claims has. it is true, been a Republican Police Commissioner in this city, and Judge THEO-DORE H. SWIFT is described as "a regular old time St. Lawrence county Republican politician" by his enemies; but these matters cannot be regarded serilegislation by which it is proposed to bestow upon Democrats the offices which they now hold.

Nor is it any excuse for this Democratic wrong to say that the Republicans perpetrated a similar wrong when Governor HIGGINS was in office by lengthening the terms of the Judges of the Court of Claims and increasing their salaries. Inte. That wrongful act will not make this Saturnalia of the world's history! act rightful. If the Democratic major- How that would have pleased the late caused the usual amount of international valid objection can a Democratic minor- later W. J. BRYAN. Let us be grateful ity offer to similar legislation which may be proposed a few years hence by a Lupercalia. Republican majority to replace Governor Dix's Judges of the Court of Proper Treatment for Car Rowdies. Claims by Republicans?

It is a fundamental mistake in printhing of politics. The people expect better things than this from the men whom they have placed in power at Albany, notably from JOHN A. DIX. If they are disappointed there will be a day of reckoning, and it will not be very long delayed.

# The Sulking of Mr. La Follette.

The decision upon applications should the police, once called on seriously to committees than Progressives, and while ever, because of certain Magistrates they rate themselves morally and intellectually as of a higher order than the riority when it comes to voting on comso so mittee assignments.

The two most important committees 2 00 in the Senate are l'inance and Interstate course is an excellent example for all s oo Commerce. Membership is coveted to follow. 70 by Senators who have political ambitions to gratify. The Hon. ROBERT M. LA FOLLETTE has been assigned to Finance and the Hon. ALBERT B. CUMMINS gets a place on Interstate Commerce. There is not room on either committee for both of them, and

it was wise to keep them apart. Precedence has usually been fol-Out lowed in making up committees. The dally and Sunday Sun are on sale in of consideration for the ambitions wounding their sensibilities precedence was disregarded in several instances. Quatre Septembre (near Place de l'Opéra). The daily and Sunday editions are on sale at Kiesque 12, near the Grand Hotel: Kiosque 7. Boulevard des Capucines, corner Place de Opéra, and Kiosque 19. Boulevard des Italiens corner Bue Louis le Grand.

Was disregarded in several instances. The Regulars felt that they had to live with them and gave them many inches, although not a whole ell. Mr. CLAPP of Minnesota is head of Interstate Commerce, Mr. CULLOM of Illinois giving with them and gave them many inches, with whom calumny had confounded publication wish to have rejected articles returned they vania would not do so much for Mr. LA FOLLETTE as regards Finance, and it would be difficult to blame Mr. PEN-

speaking terms. The Progressives have fared well in it; all of them except Mr. LA FOLLETTE. pending in the Legislature and has been who would not be happy unless he was

### Signor Ferrero on the Women of the Casars.

Signor GUGLIELMO FERRERO, who has reinvented Roman history to the delight of the historian of the Rough Riders, has begun in the Century Magazine a series of articles, destined, no doubt, to their hour of discussion and reperussion, on "The Women of the Cæsars," ladies who seem to have had a good deal of what is now called "temperament," pretty much as they pleased. How much tort the images of public characters; they suspect perhaps that history was the predecessor of yellow journalism; they remember that golden saying: 'No history: that must be a lie."

Unfortunately Signor FERRERO has a theory or two that walks through all his work; and he has the habit of comparing things ancient with things modern, often when there is no real basis of comparison, in a manner that may dazzle the groundlings and make Chautauqua tremble; very effective, but is it sound? In his introductory piece \$6,000 a year, \$1,000 is knocked off the in the Century you see his manner. There is a bit of history, with some tall, solemn Latin word rustling its toga:

" To give the woman means to change her legit mate guardian at pleasure, if her father had provided none by will, there was invented the tutor woman by the institution of tutelage disappeared. one limitation continued in force; she could not of one of the new Judges to be appointed make her will. Yet even this was provided for. either by fictitious marriage or by the invention (purchase) into the manus of a person of her trust. near the top. on the agreement that the coemptionator would the present Judges of the Court of free her; he became her guardian in the eyes of the

> Then you have the sociological detail, the Macaulay-McMaster manner:

" She might go freely; this she did generally in a

litter. She was never excluded from theatres." Finally, and this seems the most thoroughly Ferreroese, the historian begins to give a moral lecture. This perhaps is the real secret of his popularity. Folks are so humble nowadays and do so love to be trodden on by itinerant professors of ethics and omnisciolistics. Here is most of the peroration of the first article:

" One of the greatest problems of every epoch and all civilizations is to find a balance between the natural aspiration for freedom that is none other than the need of personal felicity, a need as lively and profound in the heart of woman as of man, and the supreme necessity for a discipline without which the race, the State and the family run the gravest danger. Yet this problem toously as any justification for the drastic day, in the unmeasured exhitaration with which riches and power intoxicate the European-Ameri can civilization, is considered with the superficia frivoity and the voluble dilettantism that despoit philosophy, statesmanship and morality. We live in the midst of what might be called the Satur nalla of the world's history; and in the midst of the swift and easy labor, the inebriety of our continual festivities, we feel no more the tragic in

JOSEPHUS COOK; how it will please the to Signor FERRERO that he didn't say

Magistrate ConnoLLy's disposition of ciple to make a judicial tribunal a playthe cases of the seven car rowdies arwill receive very general approval. He sentenced two young men to a reformatory for terms of three years, released on high bail two who were immediately taken to Nassau county for trial on charges of assault, sent to jail two more pending sentence, and held the other in bail for further examination.

Stern discipline of this kind will soon Mr. La Follette's complaint that end a nuisance to which the public has the Progressive Senators were treated long been subjected. For years the "unjustly and unfairly" in the commit- transportation companies were remiss tee assignments made by the Republi- in the protection of their passengers, can caucus was merely an ebullition and the police shut their eyes to this parof baffled ambition. There are thirty- ticular form of lawlessness. Recently eight Regulars and, including Senator the managers of the city railways have to their King visiting their dearest enemy. And walks can I spend the KENTON of Iowa, the latest comer, made intelligent and sincere efforts to their hig neighbor to the north. The

not rest with the minority. All that it suppress rowdyism, have done their part resentation. There are many more been practically without effect, how-

lose fear of blighting the futures of a few ruffians overcame their sense of the Regulars, there is no reason humanly rights of the public. Within the last May to Paris; as he was a gallant young why the latter should recognize infe- two years there have been signs of a officer who fought against the hated Prusgrowing disposition among these Magistrates to punish adequately this class of wrongdoers. Magistrate Connolly's of the Danubian States there is no reason

### The Farmer's Best Friend.

If called upon a week ago to name the best friend the farmer has in Congress the Hon. JOHN DALZELL of Pittsburg? Mr. Dalzell's title to the honor rests Maryland and Virginia. At present a upon the speech he made in the House statue in Washington to Sir WALTER opposing the Canadian reciprocity bill. Who would have supposed that his love for the farmer had a depth that no of Progressive Fe lators and to avoid plummet might sound? Mr. DALZELL, now that he appears as he is, stands out in shining relief from a background of sophists, economists and calculators esty and health: him. He is sentimental, he is chival-Minnesota is head of Interstate Com- rous and the quality of his patriotism merce, Mr. CULLOM of Illinois giving is not strained, but in its normal exerway to him. Mr. PENROSE of Pennsyl- cise is all embracing. The following paragraphs, taken at random from Mr. DALZELL's remarks, will bear us out:

" Any policy that takes from us our boys and BOSE, as the two Senators are not on girls, the good red blood of American manhood and wemanhood, that depletes the Valley of the Mississippi and the plains of the West and lower committee assignments and they know! farm values here, while increasing them across the border, robs us of our dearest and most valuable

> "Oh, no, my friends, when it comes to a matter o sentiment my heart goes out to my own people my patriotism is American, not Canadian patriot ism; my brotherly love is for my own kin, for th American farmer, not for his Canadian competi

The Hon. CLAUDE KITCHIN of North Carolina with his eloquent tongue had stabbed Mr. DALZELL in his dearest possession, that sentiment of affection and esteem which unsuspected he has always cherished for the farmer . Mr. KITCHIN had insinuated that while the liorating conditions that are well night inex-Hon, JOHN DALZELL shed tears for the and a truly imperial habit of doing farmer they were crocodile tears, and it was the mechanic in the forge and were they lied about? For nobody, we foundry for whom he really felt consuppose, can accept as genuine the cern. The truth is that Mr. DALZELL'S melodramatic pictures which historians heart beats for both; beats for all, with a "tendency" have drawn of them, united they stand, divided they fall; Let us hope that Signor FERRERO will Gloucester fishermen, grape fruit growshow them to us in some human and ers, hatters, furriers, workers in wool possible shape, not as sports of nature and cotton, men of all trades and occuand prodigies of lust and cruelty. The pations-touch not a single industry moderns are inclined to be more chari- with the palsying hand of tariff revision! table in their judgments. They know Nothing could be more candid and beauhow party and personal prejudices dis-tiful than Mr. DALZELL's retort upon the irreverent KITCHIN:

> " I had both the farmer and the manufacture in mind. When you direct my attention to the subject of a tariff I always have in mind the great ity, dear to my heart, whose interests it is my highest ambition to serve. I recall its pillar of cloud by day, its pillar of fire by night, the roat of its machinery, its myriad workingmen in the receipt of the highest wages paid any working men in any place on earth, a city which is a shinin exemplar of the beneficent results of the system f protection. And when I have in mind the fac that if the farmer be robbed of his protection my great city will be robbed of its protection I refuse to participate in the robbery.

People sometimes forget that if Mr DALZELL represents the foundrymen of Pittsburg, McKeesport and Braddock, e has farmers among his constituents in rural Turtle Creek, Pitcairn, Swissvided none by will, there was invented the tutor cessicius, thereby allowing the transmission of a legal guardianship. However, though all restrictions imposed upon the liberty of the unmarried as in those of the other. But the devotion of the farmers touches him more canine and feline races, the fox—
tenderly than the attachment of the liter it suddenly occurred to him that when a foundryman. After this in any list of boy he had been bitten on the hand by a fox. foundrymen. After this in any list of of the tutor fiduciarius. The woman, without of JOHN DALZELL of Pittsburg ought to

# The Retirement of Flynn.

Since WILLIAM J. FLYNN has been a Deputy Commissioner of Police the detective force, over which he presided. has done its work more satisfactorily than for some years. Several obscure themselves practically immune from The confidence of self-styled Black Hand gangs has been shaken, and the general opinion that these lawbreakers could not be detected has been shown to be unfounded.

It was unfortunate that Mr. FLYNN was called on to manage the police work against the gamblers, for this put on his shoulders too great a burden. To direct the secret investigation bureau of the department is enough for one man. Mr. FLYNN proved himself thoroughly capable in the elementary exercise of smashing in armored doors, to the attack on which he adapted a new weapon, the hydraulic jack. confuse all the great problems of esthetics, ing gambling houses is not the most important kind of police activity, but attained the age of 39 years, is in good condition Mr. FLYNN did it well. Finally, and and enjoys his cats. He was formerly owned by not least, Mr. PLYNN found it possible the late Dr. C. P. Gage of Concord, N. H. to keep a quiet tongue in his head.

> The postponement of the visit of King gossip that has attended the efforts of the Servian monarch to meet on friendly terms his royal cousins of Europe. At it is declared that the illness of Francis
> Joseph is merely an excuse and that the
> postponement is due to "political diffibut itself, should be promptly broken up.

The Servians have taken no little pride in the social ambitions of their King. He has made more advancement than any other of their rulers. Besides, they hope other of their rulers. Besides, they hope that commercial and financial advantages And almost everybody had gone to bed. will result from these visits. But with the memory still fresh of the Austro-Hungarian seizures in the Balkans and the tense situations along the border only a short time ago they strenuously objected Brace up and think: In what useful ways there are only thirteen Progressives, protect their orderly passengers, and Budapest papers in the meantime, quot-

ing a despatch from London that King PETER will never be received by the Britcan reasonably ask is proportional rep- well. The efforts of these agencies have ish court because it has "proof of his connection with the assassination of King

ALEXANDER and Queen DRAGS," have op-posed the reception by the Emperor of the regicide King." PETER has planned for a visit early in sians in the war of 1870 and as France has a desire to take an interest in the affairs to believe that his reception will be less hearty because of his failure to be wel-

It is now insisted that a statue to WALTER RALEIGH should join the collection of other monuments at Washington.—St. Louis Republic. Not so long as the smoke of old Jor who would have thought of singling out CANNON'S Danville Mephiticos poisons

comed by Germany's great ally.

the air and chokes the District and even would be an insult.

The Hon. WILLIAM CHARLES ADAMSON of the Fourth Georgia district recites the Democratic hymn in the House; the large lineaments of the Hon. BEAUCHAMP CLARK are lit with the commingling roses of mod- familiar mistakes in the world. One would CLARK and reform ' is a slogan which has

placed the Democrats in control of this House, and the same gonfalon may lead the hosts of Democracy to such a signal and glorlous victory that the people, for the first time in many years. realizing the blessings of old fashloned honesty and Democracy in control, may renain awake to perpetuate their own rule, their own power, prosperity and happiness.

CLARK and reform! Well, there can't

As there are fully 1,600 islands in the Philippine Archipelago the moderation of the Dutch is amazing.

# PREVENTION OF HYDROPHOBIA.

The Strict Enforcement of a Muzzling Ordinance Would Be Effective.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: 1 am cases of rabies lately, and it would be of value to know how many have really oc-curred in New York city and its suburbs. It is an imperative duty that we should guard all our people from any risk; and a little care on the part of dog owners and the strict enforcement of a law to muzzle dogs in given areas will tend greatly toward ame-

in England I understand hydrophobia is practically extinct, no cases having oc-curred there for years; and this happy state of affairs is due to the strict enforcement of a muzzling law and a very rigid quarantine toward foreign dogs. The muzzling law s also firmly adhered to in Germany, where hydrophobia cases are very uncommon. The S. P. C. A., I believe, however, ignores hydrophobia and actually denies its exist-

ence in spite of facts.

Directly on the appearance of a mad dog upon the street instructions should at issued by the authorities that all dogs in the locality be muzzled, and that any dog found unmuzzled should be killed on the spot.

I am a lover of dogs and certainly object to their total destruction if the trouble can be cured by less stringent measures. The dog is man's best friend, and as such should be treated humanely.

FREDERICK G. R. ROTH.
ENGLEWOOD, N. J., April 27.

### Case of the Man Who Imagined He Had the Disease.

To the Editor of The Sun-Sir: How a fixed idea of fear of hydrophobia can directly produce the symptoms of the dreaded tioned by James J. O'Dea, M. D., in his treatise on "Suicide"

I will eite for this purpose an illustration for the truth of which I can all the more confidently vouch since it happened in my own experience. During the progress of an earnest discussion on hydrophobia in the city of New York, now some five or six years ago, a gentleman of good judg-ment and usually great self-possession took up a medical book to inform himself on the matter

The recollection of this long forgotten incident farmers' friends in Congress the name filed him with dismay. "Never before," he de-of JOHN DALZELL of Pittsburg ought to clares, "had I felt such sensations. I was con-selous of two impressions, but for the moment contracting matrimony, gave herself by coemptio lead all the rest, or at least be very of nothing besides. One of these was in my head, of nothing besides. One of these was in my head, and took the shape of a fixed horror of hydrophobia. The other felt like a current of alternate cold and hot air rushing up my spine and out into my limbs. Instantly it seemed that every miscle in my whole body grew rigid, and the bare idea of swallowing water produced a spasm, my threat. Terror, actual terror, mounted in my throat. Terror, actual terror, mounter within me to such a pitch that I must have cried aloud had I not instantly rushed out of doors in the open air, and by dint of competting my than for some years. Several obscure thoughts into other channels. I succeeded in crimes have been cleared up, and a breaking the spell. My fixed liea fided into the number of criminals who considered themselves practically impuring from and was bathed in sweat. The feelings here described were renewed for some length of time punishment have been sent to prison, after this whenever hydrophobia was alluded to

and fainter until they finally ceased altogethe NEW YORK, April 26.

### New Hampshire Notes. From the Kearsarge Independent

There are eighteen little pigs belonging to Henry ment. They are interesting little beggars, and one would think, to watch them, that they had the weight of the whole establishment on their shoul-ders. When the Davis boys make the round of their maple trees gathering sap the whole eigh teen troop along with them to see that the busi-ness in hand is properly attended to. When the school teacher, who boards at the Davis home, starts for school they take it upon themselves to see that she is safely escorted to her destination. Talk of Mary's little lamb, it wasn't in it with the "Raid- | Davis pigs. In the Tyler district, in the same town, which

> This district also has a resident who is the oldest thinks nothing of taking a four mile walk to the village church on Sunday

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Why should we have a volunteer Board of Education any more than a volunteer Department of Charities the Russian court, where he was first received, it was reported from Vienna that he was not treated with the respect to which his rank entitled him. His visit to the Italian court a few weeks ago was made the occasion for reports from the same source of a widespread anarchist to the respect to the second court and the seco same source of a widespread anarchist twice a month, or ahandoned to paid but irresponding against the Italian royal family, in-trigues against the Triple Alliance and hands of a commission of intelligent paid officers threats of papal excommunication. Now answerable to the city. Surely this great ques-

NEW YORK, April 27. To the Editor of The Sun-Sir:

"Now, when you've reached three score and ten, For it's just life's shank of the evening

For it is just the shank of the evening.

J. D. CBART.

## THE ALBANIANS.

From the Speciator.

Even if the Albanians had consented to

the imposition of the octrol—and here we may well sympathize with the Turks, who

want the money-they could not have been

expected to give up their immemorial right to carry arms or to accept the Arabic alphabet as a substitute for their own Roman alphabet. This imposition of a foreign character on a singularly proud people is really a test of the methods of the Young Turks. If there is one thing above all others on which the Albanians pride themselves it is on being a non-Turkish people. Their history in this one spot of Europe reaches back into obscurity. They are perhaps the oldest Aryan stock in the peninsula, and their language goes back to unknown origins. As always happens the language of the people is divided into many dialects. The Chegs, who are the fighting Albanians and the tribe chiefly to be reckoned with in any rising, use the Roman alphabet with a few added symbols. The Tosks use the Greek alphabet, but both sections of the race are proud of being Albanians, and in opposition to the Turks they are united. If the Turks persist in tampering with the Albanian language, which is cherished as a proof and token of national unity and of distinction from the Turks, they will commit one of the most think that even if they do not read history they would have observed the recurrent riots in Athens on the language question. Those alone show how deeply people in southeastern Europe value such a proof of racial lineage as language affords them in circumstances where purity of race is but one insignificant exception an absolute always questionable. After the Turco-prohibition of the use of wood in any form Greek war the Queen of Greece was shocked to find that wounded soldiers in hospital were unable to read their Bibles because they did not understand the literary language of modern Greece, the language of the newspapers and of Parliament; and she accordingly had a version prepared in the dialect which the common people speak and into which even the most cultivated Greeks sometimes lapse when they are excited. But this version, by the distinguished scholar M. Palli, was received with execuation. It appeared, by consenting to a hybrid language, directly to challenge the Greek claim to uninterrupted descent from the Greeks of classical times This was not a dispute over an alphabet, it is true, but the principle was almost the same as is now at work in Albania. version was removed in response to the clamor. Similar riots occurred in Athens only a few days ago, when there was a proposal that the dialect should be admitted to the university. The Young Turks will be wise, therefore, if they recognize that sentiment in such a matter is worth more consideration than the convenience of using a single character throughout the empire The Albanians agreed to the obliteration of their Christianity in the fifteenth century when the Turks overran their country But it is often supposed that under the

profession of the Moslem faith a good many of them still revere their older creed, and it is certain that the prevailing faith of Mohammedanism is mingled with several curious Christian forms. Those who are openly Christians are vehement Christians whether of the Orthodox Church or Roman Catholics, and the attempt of the Turkish Government a year ago to plant colonies of Bosnian Moslems among the Christian Albanians along the Greek frontier ust the sort of expedient to harden their disaffection into bitter determination. I seems that the Prenk Pip Doda Pasha, th hereditary leader of the Mirdites (the Roman Catholic tribe of Albanians), is accompany ng the Turkish troops in the field, but too much significance need not be allowed to this apparently strange fact. This tribe occupies such an inaccessible position that the Turks might have as much difficulty in reducing them to even a temporary submission as they have had in the past. The operation would be quite impossible if the whole country were in revolt. In the past the hereditary rulers of the Mirdites have sometimes been held as hostages by the Turks, and were believed to be in sympathy with the Turkish Government, but that made no difference to the resolute defance of the tribesmen themselves. Albania is one of the most difficult countries in the world for campaigning. There are no railways and few roads. The mountains are unmapped, and the few paths are arduous; the valleys are hotbeds of fever. Above all, the Albanians are now armed with modern weapons. In southern Albania the success of the Turks is possible and even probable, but there would be no hope of conquering the more mountainous army were able to bring an enormous force to bear. In fine, the condition of success is that the army should not be distracted to bear by internal dissensions in the Government or by serious challenges to Turkish supremacy in other parts of the empire.

## LAST OF THE GOOSENECKS. Memories Stirred by the Finding of Old Fire Apparatus.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The letter from Walter L. Clark in reply to M. whereabouts of the old time fire apparatus to the hand engine known as the "Gooseneck," Oceanus 11 had one, and it in use even when they ran the double decker. I have followed it often myself when they would "buck the with it in winter time when snow was deep

double decker. I have followed it often myself when they would "buck the walk" with it in winer time when snow was deep in the streets. They would run it on the sidewalks going to a fire in the third district, in Prince reset, out through Charlong in the streets. They would run it on the sidewalks going to a fire in the third district, in Prince reset, out through Charlong in the streets. They would run it on the sidewalks going to a fire in the third district, in Prince duty calls, there you will find us, "and below "Organized 1780."

The sood back near the staircase and was gainted dark blue. It had a motto on the back, "Where duty calls, there yo will gooseneek remained in the house almost up to the time they received a steamer believe it was owned by the company. However, I ran along with the gooseneck often in the winters of 1837-58 and 1839.

Jack Wildey was foreman. I remember seeing Equitable Hose 58 in Eleven's old house on Wooster street, near Prince. I think that was the last time if was occupied. Later on the police took an engine we boys had built and stored it therein. I followed to the fire of the police took an engine we boys had built and stored it therein. I followed to the fire of the park, leading to the front of the City Hall. It hung there when belief the world be silent while the did not be seen. A small streets. We boys used to nass the locality on the night that the cupiols burned the people of Staten Island burned the quarantine buildings and the militia was sent to restore peace. I remember well the "bead tablis" and "Bowery Boys" having their battless around Elizabeth, Heater and Canal streets. We boys used to nass the locality on the night that the cupiols burned the people of Staten Island burned the quarantine buildings and the militia was sent to restore peace. I remember well the "bead tables and was placed in a wooden structure near the Broadway entrance to the park, leading to the front of the City Hall. It hung there battless around Elizabeth, Heater and Canal streets. We boy

street and is still to be seen. A small bakery or store of some kind is built in the alley.

Often have I waited near it to see the actors "come out." Allen, G. L. For Miss W. G. Jones, Fanny Herring, Miss Harhaway, N. R. Clarke and others. It was rather dangerous for boys of the West Side to go over into the "enemy's country." The "White Ghost" boys, or the "Rocks," would waylay us, or the "Peterson crowd" hold us up. I ptown on Fighth avenue the "Hickory boys" or the "Chelsea" crowd would do the same. I saw the Fire Zouaves depart for the war and saw Ellsworth's funeral as it came up Broadway.

Brownell sat beside the hearse driver with the Confederate flag rolled up and his hayonel stuck through it. This was the flag Ellsworth pulled down and Jackson shot him, to be killed in return by Frank Brownell.

In 1860 the Japanese embassy, the Great Eastern, the Prince of Wales and the exciting election came. Four candidates in the field, Lincoln and Hamlin, Brecking aller the wide awakes and other parties paraded in great torchilght processions. It will give me great pleasure to look at the old gooseneck and the condenser case of old Oceanus il at the volunteer headquarters, and I will call there to see these relics just as soon as I again visit New York.

There was a little gooseneck on top of Black Joke's house. Fifty-eighth street, near Broadway. Whatever became of it?

Pauladelpharit, April 27.

Pauladelpharit, April 27.

Brownell, Strain and Conditions and Daughters of Our faitu is firmer and our belief is the to in the folks and bard would drink the last drop of the bit in the fortune and future of our folks. The ear the Astrony of the sons and Daughters of "Old would drink the last drop of the bit may be would drink the last drop of the bit say to the Sons and Daughters of "Old would drink the last drop of the bit say to the Sons and Daughters of "Old would drink the last drop of the bit would drink the last drop of the bit say to the Confedera the sons and Daughters of "Old would drink the last drop of the

## THE BUILDING CODE. Proposed Amendments Thereto Are Be-

ing Made by Experts. To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Ernest Flagg's letter of this morning is very interesting. It is full of information with regard to the Budapest building code and of wise conclusions therefrom, but delightfully ignorant of what is being done right here in New York. It must be that he has neither read the proposed amend-ment to the theatrical section of the code which is now before the Board of Aldermen nor knows how that proposed amendmen was prepared.

In the first place Mr. Flagg calls attention to the fact that the Budapest code is the result of cooperation between the Institute of Architects and the local Society of Engineers. Perhaps for the first time in th where there is no literature to speak of. history of New York there has been exactly similar cooperation since the fall of 1909 ing in a purely scientific spirit toward producing an ideal section of the building code. Section 109 of our New York code. which is now under consideration is the result of cooperation between the New York Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, the American Society of Consulting Engineers, the Building Trades Employers Association, the experts of the Board of Fire Underwriters and the Superintendent of Buildings. To be sure it is not, as in the City Fathers are not bound to accept the results of its deliberations, but its conclusions are authoritative and deserve the attention of every professional man. Had Mr. Flagg read the report of that committee he would have found that it contains, with prohibition of the use of wood in any form in theatrical structures. As if it were something original, Mr. Flagg says "a metallic screen like a portcullis" should be provided across the proscenium arch. Chicago and many other cities have required such a curtain for a number of years, owing to the failure of the asbestos curtains, which for a long time were considered sufficiently effective. An examination of the code now before our Aldermen would show that it does require a rigid fireproof curtain so designed as to withstand the pressure of gases that would be generated on the stage by burning scenery. It also requires that such a curtain shall be provided with and bottom. This is an important detail which your correspondent's reference to a metallic screen does not cover at all. It is not so much the flame in a theatre fire that

Work like this of revising building codes and fire laws should not be founded on snap judgments of any individual. It nust be thought out consistently and cientifically. The committee previously must referred to, which includes twenty or more architects, engineers, builders and fire prevention experts, in pursuance of a long established plan is at the present time at work on sections of the building code ordnance. The board will consist of which affect the construction and the exit Capt. F. F. Fletcher, Capt. Roy C. Smith, Surely we may expect in such united scienthat common sense which your correspondent in his isolation seems to assume as such a committee was actually in existence and at work at the time when building fire shocked the community

ROBERT D. KOHN, Secretary, Committee on City Departments. NEW YORK, April 26.

Common Sense TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Mr. Ernest Flagg's letters are always interesting and generally full of "common sense," but if he carefully examines the amendment to section 100 of the building code, dealing with construction of theatres, recently in-troduced by President McAneny, he will and that he has no monopoly of this very desirable quality. Mr. Flagg's recom-mendations for the changes to the theatre sections show conclusively that he has not read the amendments now under consideration in the Board of Aldermen, which have been prepared by the joint committee of the Building Trades Employers Association and the New York Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, with the assistance of Professor Woolson and Mr. Stewart of the Board of Fire Underwriters and numerous other experts.

The rigid curtain which Mr. Flagg seems to think is an original suggestion is the most WOULD ABOLISH THE SENATE. ments, although the experts who worked Socialist Congressman Says It's a Helle upon this section also considered that a theatre law must necessarily be designed to meet panic as well as fire conditions, and States Senate has run its course and must they therefore, after months of study, thought it absolutely essential to keep the side courts, which Mr. Flagg thinks unnec-

In every other particular all other points suggested by Mr. Flagg are thoroughly the Socialist, as he dropped into the covered, and if these amendments are hopper of the House to-day his resolu-adopted I take it that even Mr. Flagg will tion proposing that the Senate be wiped agree that some "common sense" injected into our building code. Mr. Flagg says that the two attempts to

"several hundred thousand dollars." Walsh's query concerning the present only expense which the city has been put to be present only expense two commissions is the expense of the old time fire apparatus by these two commissions is the expense of the city has been put to be present only expense only e for clerical services, although it now seem 1907 incorporated in its draft of a new building code almost every provision for fire prevention and protection of life which has been suggested since the late disaster

Our faith is firmer and our belief is the bolder in the fortune and future of our folks. The earth God bless them everywhere, and all the

# "Snobbery" of "Wealthy Churches."

to say a word of defence relative to the much abused ushers of the so-called "wealthy churches."
The week before Easter I attended a Holy Week recital at St. Bartholomew's, hearing Each's "Passion Music." At the start the rear of the church was crowded with standees, but after about an hour of the superb music a few of those sitting went home. Ushers in attendance timmediately took much trouble to escort the standees to seats, and continued to do so throughout the service.

How about the terrible snobbery that one hears To the Edition of The Sun-Sir: I would beg to say a word of defence relative to the much abused ushers of the so-called "wealthy churches."

How about the terrible snobbery that one hears so much about in the high Episcopal churches GRANTWOOD, N. J., April 27.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The Big oot was at the northwes: corner of Great Jones street and Bowery, outside of Bob Irwin's shot store. Bob was a veteran of the Second New York WILLIAM F. DALT.

# SENATE COMMITTEES.

List of Assignments of Democratic Sens. WASHINGTON, April 27.-The list of

signments of Democratic Senators to committees was announced in the Senate to-day. The following Senators received the chairmanships indicated below:

Senator Bacon of Georgia, Private Land Claims; Senator Bailey of Texas, Additional Accommodations for the Library of Congress; Senator Taylor of Tennessee, Geological Survey; Senator Tillman of South Carolina, Five Civilized Tribes; Senator immons, Engrossed Bills; Senator Smith of Maryland, to Investigate Trespassers on Indian Lands; Senator Stone of Missouri, Revolutionary Claims; Senator Clark of Arkansas, Disposition of Useless Papers in the Executive Departments. Senator Culberson of Texas, Public Health and National Quarantine; Senator Davis of Arkansas, Mississippi River and Its Tributaries; Senator Foster of Louisiana, Trans portation and Sale of Meat Products: Sena-tor Gore of Oklahoma, Railroads; Senator Johnston of Alabama, University of the United States; Senator Newlands of Nevada, Corporations Organized in the District of columbia; Senator Overman of North Carolina, Woman Suffrage; Senator Owen of Oklahoma, Pacific Railroads, Senator Payn-ter of Kentucky, to Examine the Several Branches of the Civil Service; Senator Rayner of Maryland, Indian Depredation

The Democratic membership of the important Senate committees is as follows: Finance-Bailey, Simmons, Stone, Kern.

Williams and Johnson (Maine).
Judiciary—Bacon, Overman, Cuiberson,
Rayner, Chilton and O'Gorman.
Foreign Relations—Shively, Stone, Bacon, Clarke (Arkansas), Hitchcock and Rayner Appropriations—Tillman, Culberson, Fos-ter, Martin, Overman and Owen.

Interstate Commerce-Tillman, Clarke, Foster. Newlands, Taylor. Pomerene and Watson

Military Affairs-Taylor, Williams, Chamberlain, Clarke, Foster, Hitchcock and Naval Affairs-Thornton, Tillman, Smith

of Maryland; Swanson, Bryan and Johnson Commerce — Simmons, Bankhead, Fletcher, Martin, Newlands, Percy and

The committees to which Senator O'Gorman has been assigned are: Judiciary, Immigration, Interoceanic Canals, Manufactures and Cuban Relation

### NAVAL BUREAU OF ORDNANCE. Board of Officers Appointed to Consider a Proposed Reorganization.

WASHINGTON, April 27 .- A board of naval officers has been appointed by Secretary of the Navy Meyer to consider a proposed reorganization for increasing the efficiency of the naval bureau of Commander Nathan C. Twining, Lieutenant-Commander F. H. Clark, Lieutenant-Commander Orton P. Jackson and Commander John M. Pover, retired, recorder The board will meet at the Navy Department on May 1 and it is expected its work will require several weeks. No permanent successor to Rear Admiral Newton E. Mason as chief of the bureau of ordnance will be selected until the board has made its report to Secretary Meyer. The precept of the board says among other things:

In view of the complexity of modern naval ordnance material and in order to secure the highest efficiency in its design, manufacture and installation, should any modification in the present plan of temporary detail to ordnance duties be made? connection attention is called to the present system for ordnance work in the United States Army and to what extent such a system could be advantageously applied to naval ordnance under the present ganization. The board will consider this connection the facilities afforded the present ordnance class and the require-ments demanded to fit them for future ordnance dulies; also the advisability of selecting officers to be eligible for ordnance duty by qualifying examination and of

some day, as with the British House of Lords, yield to the popular demand for its reformation or abolition," said Representative Victor Berger of Milwaukee, off the map. Mr. Berger announced when he first came to Congress that he intended to put the Senate out of business if it could be done, but he didn't take the initial step in the performance until to-day.

"When the Constitution was framed," be recognized that the commission of Mr. Berger continued in explanation of his proposition, "the separation in two houses was accepted upon the precedent of the British Parliament and on no valid ground whatever. When the proposition was made to divide the Congress into two branches three States, the great State of New York among them, recorded

their votes against it.
"It is a notable fact that while the makers of the Constitution were taking up this relic of European feudalism and ciothing it with formidable power the English nation was already preparing the forces which were to reduce the House of Lords to the secondary position it now occupies. If the bill of the Liberal Government becomes a law the House of Lords will practically be abolished.

"It is sometimes said that the Senate

"It is sometimes said that the Senate might be beneficial as a check against sudden upheavals or ill considered changes, especially in a political or economic crisis. But such occasions are just the times when the resistance of such a body is practically nil.

the times when the resistance of such a body is practically nil.

"There is nothing so conservative as the great mass of the people. Give the people the full referendum and God knows progress will be slow enough.

"The referendum is in reality the most conservative political power in existence.

conservative political power in existence, as is shown in Switzerland, where it has been in use for many years. The referendum is infinitely stronger than all the Senates in the world because no democratic power is great enough to resist it and yet no progressive measure, no re-form, is safe until it has been accepted

by the majority of the people."

The Berger resolution proposes an amendment to the Constitution vesting all legislative power in the House of Representatives, the enactment of which, subject to referendum, shall be the su-preme law. The President shall have no power to veto nor any court to invali-date. The section in the Berger resolution proposing the general referendum

Amendments to Reciprocity Bill. WASHINGTON, April 27. - Senator Nelson of Minnesota to-day introduced amendments to the Canadian reciprocity bill. transferring wheat, barley, oats, rye and other farm products, including live stock and certain dairy products, from the free list to the dutiable list and makes them pay about half the duties imposed under the Payne-Aldrich law.